

PV Log: (circle one) **Poem** / Movie / Picture / LyricDate 4/11/14Title "Spring"Author / Director / Gerard Manley Hopkins

Context (Where Found / Viewed / Read?)

Found on shmoop.com while looking for poems

Content / CD / Summary / Precis (Say? "Plot? Setting/Situation? Key lines/phrases scenes, etc? )

This poem describes the beauty of spring and what it represents in our lives. It initially talks about the physical beauty of spring such as the colorful flowers, lush vegetation, beautiful young animals such as lambs, and birds and their songs. The speaker relates the beauty of spring to the garden of Eden, showing its innocence and God-given wonder. The narrator then seems to ask God to protect him from sin.

Content / CM / Meaning? / Theme(s)?

The theme of this poem is innocence and pureness. Spring is beautiful, and the brand new plants and flowers it produces are innocent and new. They are golden. The author asks God to help him keep his innocence and protect him from evil, so that he may enjoy the beauty of spring even more. Spring symbolizes new birth and new life, and we ask God to keep it pure and innocent.

Form (Diction? Construction Terms? Symbolism?)

Spring is symbolic of new life. It is the time of Jesus' resurrection, the time that flowers bloom, and the time that birds sing louder and more beautifully than ever before. Jesus' resurrection saved us as humans, and it is important that we recognize the message of this and take God's gift of grace for granted rather than letting it sit on the side of the road and rot.

Commentary (What do you want to say? Why like? Questions? Synthesis / Allusions-Connections / Relevance to personal experience, to literature, 20Q's? etc.)? "Poetic" Traits?

The final poem of my poetic vision project has finally arrived, and I chose a poem very fitting for the situation. "Spring" represents the beauty of nature in a very literate, descriptive manner. The author is very well educated, and he definitely knows how to recognize beauty when he sees it. He talks about Eden, and how all humans have ever wanted was a place like Eden, yet it is impossible due to humanity's flawed nature. The poem suggests that spring is the closest we get to Eden, and beauty in nature is the closest we will get to utopia.

**over (do not mix logs; e.g., no poem log in front, and movie log on back)**

## Spring

Nothing is so beautiful as spring—

When weeds, in wheels, shoot long and lovely and lush;  
Thrush's eggs look little low heavens, and thrush  
Through the echoing timber does so rinse and wring  
The ear, it strikes like lightnings to hear him sing;  
The glassy peartree leaves and blooms, they brush  
The descending blue; that blue is all in a rush  
With richness; the racing lambs too have fair their fling.  
What is all this juice and all this joy?

A strain of the earth's sweet being in the beginning  
In Eden garden.—Have, get, before it cloy,  
Before it cloud, Christ, lord, and sour with sinning,  
Innocent mind and Mayday in girl and boy,  
Most, O maid's child, thy choice and worthy the winning.